



City of Wichita

Wichita Police Department

October 2006 Monthly Report

BTK Investigation highlighted at annual IACP conference

Inside this issue:

Did you know.....	2
Officers honored for helping family	3
First Tuesday focuses on terrorism	3
Simunition exercises	4
A piece of WPD history resurfaces	5
Behind the scenes ...	6
Mounted Unit getting new saddles	7
Department reviews use of Tasers	7
Halloween fun	8

Special points of interest:

A COPS segment featuring Wichita Police Officers Joe Springob and Patrick Boucard will air on KSAS-FOX, Channel 4, December 9th 7:00 p.m.

It was an investigation that spanned more than 30 years. And, the BTK case, which caused fear in the community for more than three decades, led to an investigation that now is the talk of law enforcement officers across the globe.

In October, law enforcement executives learned about the difficulty and complexity of the BTK investigation at the 113th annual conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Boston. One of the key workshop sessions at the conference was "Managing a Hot Cold Case – The BTK Murders" and featured WPD Chief Norman Williams and Homicide Lieutenant Ken Landwehr.



"Around 200 people attended the BTK presentation," said Chief Williams. "We were told it was one of the best attended workshop sessions of the conference."

The WPD presentation about the BTK investigation was part of a panel discussion on cold cases. And, the discussion, said Williams, prompted several questions from chiefs and members of departmental command staff from around the world.

"There were several questions about the media component of the BTK investigation," said Williams. "Those questions included how to manage information during the investigation which did not compromise its direction."

That plan, said Lt. Landwehr, prompted praise from some law enforcement executives.

"Many liked the idea that we gave the media only one way into the investigation, our way" said Landwehr. "They were impressed that WPD was willing to take risks in handling the media during the investigation."

Continued on page 5...

Did You Know.....

During the month of October, WPD members received 64 Commendatory Performance Reports that were generated internally and 36 that were generated externally.

The Professional Standards Bureau opened fifteen external complaints on members of the Department during October. There were five internal complaints filed against Department employees.

In October, the Awards Committee approved 37 awards. Of those, 30 went to Field Services, five to Investigations and two to Support Services.

The Air Section completed a 600 hour inspection on the helicopter during October.

The Bomb Unit responded to two callouts and staffed six separate community displays in October.

The Mounted Unit worked four separate activations in October.

The Police Reserve Unit donated a total of 825 hours of service in October.

SWAT was activated four times in October and staffed two community displays.

Crime Prevention officers taught Accessible Parking to the newest class of volunteers in partnership with the Law Department on October 12th.



Chief Williams, Det. Kim Giffin, Lt. Bret Giffin

A large crowd turned out on October 12th to wish Lt. Giffin well as he ended a 21 year career with the Police Department. Bret Giffin started with the department in February 1985. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1994 and to Lieutenant in 1999. During his tenure he was assigned to SCAT, Vice Section, Traffic Section, Patrol North, and as Night Lieutenant in the Investigations Division.

On October 5th Officer Seitz presented Crime Prevention Information at a Health/Safety Fair.

On October 3rd Officer Wash gave a presentation to approximately 475 students on pedestrian safety at a National Walk to School kick off event held at Irving Elementary.

During October the School Liaison officers taught 145 law related education classes reaching 3,814 students and taught 137 DARE classes, which reached 3,749 fifth-grade students.

In October, Officer Mock provided extra parking enforcement at Allen Elementary in the morning and after school to combat complaints from the neighborhood and the school involving parents blocking fire hydrants, parking in handicapped spaces, blocking or parking in private driveways, and with parents picking up kids on the opposite side of the street. Several citations were issued for these infractions. The school has sent out a flyer warning parents of the complaints and the upcoming enforcement.

The strike at Bombardier/Lear Jet commenced on October 2 and continued through October 23. During the three-week action, all four Patrol Bureaus provided personnel for the assignments and Patrol West supervisors and officers spent hundreds of staff hours monitoring the situation. Communication lines remained open between police supervisors, union leaders and security personnel at the plant. The communication resulted in only three incidents taking place between strikers and other employees.



On October 30th Officers Jerrell, Hiners and Zerr, along with Sgt. Wolf and Capt. Allred, read to a group of sixty 3rd-graders from Colvin Elementary. After officers read to them, the kids wrote their own stories. This was done in partnership with the Executive Women's International who also provided T-shirts, pizza, cookies, and school supplies for each of the kids who attended the Reading Rally event.



Officers honored for helping family

Two Patrol South officers will receive the Bronze Wreath of Merit for their selfless duty in helping a family low on food.

The story began when officers Greg Feuerborn and James Pearman were dispatched to check the welfare on two little girls in the 1300 block of E. Crowley. Their mother had let them play at a neighbors, and when she went to get them they were gone. The girls were located and taken home. And that's when officers Feuerborn and Pearman noticed there was only a half-gallon of milk and half a loaf of bread in the house.



Officer James Pearman

It turned out the girls' mother had recently left an abusive relationship and was trying to survive without him. Without telling anyone, the two officers used their own money to buy groceries for the family. What is remarkable about the incident, said Officer Nathan Schwiethale in his nomination of Feuerborn and Pearman, is that the two "didn't tell anyone about what they had done until many weeks later when Officer Feuerborn mentioned it to me during a conversation."



Officer Greg Feuerborn

Both Feuerborn and Pearman were cited for their "devotion to the quality of life of the citizens of Wichita, community policing philosophies, and devotion to duty without personal gain or advantage."

"First Tuesday" focuses on terrorism

Terrorism was the topic of the "First Tuesday" session held on October 24th by the WPD Community Affairs office.

"The purpose of the session was to help citizens understand the different types of terrorism and look at examples of how our country has dealt with such events," said CA Officer Jason Dautrich. "One of the issues we discussed was how businesses should handle a bomb threat."

The First Tuesday sessions began earlier this year and were originally held on the first Tuesday of each month. Dautrich said because of the timeliness of the terrorism topic, WPD decided to hold the additional session in October.

"We also discussed what happened on United Airlines Flight 93 on September 11, 2001. That is a shining example of the heroism of ordinary citizens, and how they can be an inspiration to the rest of us," said Dautrich.

In addition, Dautrich said there was a discussion of the Oklahoma City bombing that occurred in 1995. That discussion focused on how terrorism can affect the heartland of America.

The last meeting in the 2006 First Tuesday series will be held on November 7th.

Law Enforcement Officers, Reporters Face Each Other In "Simunition" Exercises

The ammunition was "Simunition", small-caliber ammunition that resembled a paint ball. But the scenarios were all-too real.

A despondent man held a revolver to his throat threatening suicide. Two people were inside a building, both armed, one with a machine pistol. A man with a knife threatened an officer. The "bad guys" weren't real. They were WPD officers and Sedgwick County Sheriff's deputies taking part in a "Simunition" exercise designed to help local members of the media understand the dynamics of an officer-involved shooting.



Reporters are given scenarios at the Sedgwick County Sheriff and Wichita Police

KAKE reporter Jeanene Kiesling



"After the officer-involved shooting incident in northeast Wichita this past September, some members of the media raised questions about the shooting accuracy of the officers on the scene," said Assistant to the Chief Gordon Bassham. "In order to help them better understand that firing at a live, moving person who wants to kill you is a lot different than shooting at a paper target, Lt. Kevin Vaughn developed the series of exercises."



KWCH reporter Cliff Judy putting on protective gear

Reporters from all three TV stations, KFDI and the *Wichita Eagle*, donned protective gear and Simunition pistols to play the part of WPD officers. Real WPD officers and Sheriff's deputies took part in the training scenarios as the "bad guys," helping the journalists understand the stressful situations officers and deputies face every day.

"It's one thing for experts to tell the reporters how many critical decisions must be made in a real-life shooting incident," said Bassham. "It's another thing, though, to give them a small taste of what a gunfight is really like. All of them said they learned some valuable lessons."

One of the reporters taking part was Tim Potter of the *Wichita Eagle*. "...it happened so fast," wrote Potter. "It was stressful. It helped confirm what the experts had told me."

IACP Conference ... *(continued from page 1)*

Lt. Ken Landwehr said other comments focused on WPD's policy of sharing credit with the other agencies who helped solve the BTK murders.

"I heard several who attended the session comment that they were impressed we worked so hard to acknowledge their participation. But, when you stop and think about it, Dennis Rader would not be behind bars today were it not for their help."

IACP is the world's oldest and largest non-profit organization of police executives. IACP has more than 20,000 members in 89 countries.



A piece of WPD history resurfaces

Anyone familiar with Wichita's history will tell you the city has had a very colorful past. Part of that past resurfaced recently, and it brought to life an event in the city's history that cost the Wichita Police Department several of its finest.

Earlier this year, WSU student J.A. Weyrauch rescued an old plaque found in one of the labs in the Archaeology Department. Weyrauch, the sister of Janet Harrington, the current director of the jail at the Wilson County Sheriff's Office, told Harrington she found the plaque after a professor cleaning up the lab decided to throw the old plaque away. Instead, says Harrington, her sister decided it should be returned to WPD where it could serve as a reminder of part of the department's past.

The plaque was donated to the Wichita Police Department on July 18, 1938 by the Falstaff Brewing Company to commemorate the solving of the "Eddie Adams Case." Adams, whose real name was A. J. Wallace, escaped from the Lansing State Prison in 1921. Following his break, he wreaked havoc on Wichita and nearby towns.

Adams was shot and killed during a gunfight with three WPD detectives on November 23, 1921. During that gunfight, Adams killed WPD Detective Charles Hoffman and wounded Detective Ed Bowman. The Adams Gang also was involved in the slaying of Motorcycle Officer Robert Fitzpatrick, Patrolman A. L. Young, and the wounding of Motorcycle Officer Ray Casner.

The metal on the plaque, which will be displayed in the reception area of the Chief's office, comes from confiscated weapons that were melted down and recast to commemorate the end of a tragic chapter in the history of the Wichita Police Department.



**Awarded July 18, 1938
Wichita Police Department
"Eddie Adams Case"**



Behind the scenes ...

WPD 2006 Annual Awards



Chief Williams with
2006 award recipients

WPD held a reception on October 27th honoring the Officer, Civilian Employee and Volunteer of the Year.

The 2006 Officer of the Year award was presented to Officer Maurice Mitchell, a 16 year veteran of the Police Department.

This year's Non-Sworn Employee of the Year is Joan Yates, Clerk II at Patrol West. Joan has been an employee of the City of Wichita for more than 24 years.

The Cooper/McKee Volunteer of the Year award goes to Reserve Deputy Chief Galen Davis. Davis has 24 years experience in the Reserve Unit where he serves as the leader

Sergeant Jeff Pike was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

Lt. Pike has been with the department since 1980.

Detective Bart Brunscheen was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Sgt. Brunscheen has been with the department since 1995.

Promotions



Lieutenant Jeff Pike



Sergeant Bart Brunscheen

Chief Williams presents awards for 30 years of service



Capt. Darrell Haynes

Lt. Duffy Doyle

Sgt. Reg Chaney

Det. Warren Dalrymple

Det. Charlie Jauregui

WPD Mounted Unit getting new saddles

Thanks to a grant from the five Wichita-area Wal-Mart stores, WPD's Mounted Unit will be getting eight new saddles.

A grant application submitted by Sgt. Brian Sigman resulted in more than \$4,700 being donated by the stores toward the purchase of the new saddles. And that means a lot to the unit overall, said Sigman.

"With the money we raised, all members of the Mounted Unit now will have new saddles," said Sigman. "Our old saddles are more than 13 years old and are completely worn out."

The money for the saddles comes from a special "neighborhood heroes" grant that is specifically set aside for public safety by Wal-Mart.



Department reviews use of Tasers

WPD has been using Tasers for more than six months. And, in a review of the first half-year the devices were used, data shows the electromagnetic stunning devices are another effective law enforcement tool.

In the first six months the devices were used, WPD officers had at least 150,000 interactions with citizens, including traffic stops and responses to dispatched calls. In all, WPD officers used the Tasers 735 times in their first six months of deployment. Out of all those cases, use of the Tasers drew only six formal complaints.

"Clearly, the number of times Tasers were deployed based on the number of calls WPD officers responded to is a miniscule number," said Deputy Chief Robert Lee of the Field Services Division. "Tasers were used in less than one half of one percent of the calls. And, considering the fact that citizens complained about their use in less than one percent of those cases, we are satisfied the devices are being deployed appropriately."

Tasers, which temporarily immobilize a person with an electric shock, give officers another way to subdue a person who is intoxicated or belligerent and threatens the officer.

Halloween turns patrol bureaus into trick-or-treat centers

The Wichita Police Department's four Patrol Bureaus handed out Halloween candy to trick-or-treaters on Tuesday, October 31st. Homeland and Dillon's stores joined WPD in the Halloween candy event.



"This is something we've done many times over the years", said Gordon Bassham, assistant to Chief Norman Williams. "It gave children in the community an opportunity to show off their Halloween costumes to our officers. Just as important, it reinforced a positive image of officers toward children.

Bassham said the two retailers donated several dozen bags of candy to make Halloween a bit more enjoyable for Wichita area children. Officers and employees at the bureaus handed out candy throughout the evening as trick-or-treaters came and went.

*If you have items for the WPD Newsletter,
please submit them to gbassham@wichita.gov,
or call 268-4340.*

Coming up in November...

- "Operation Butterfly" works to turn lives around...
- SCAT officers help kids with cancer...
- Patrol North delivers Thanksgiving meals to families...

